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ABSTRACT

The year 2001 marked a milestone for the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Doctoral Scholars Program, the graduation of the 100th graduate. The Doctoral Scholars Program was created in 1993 to address the national shortage of minority faculty. The program model provides support, encouragement, and preparation to help scholars who have been admitted to doctoral programs in completing their study and becoming successful faculty members. The graduates highlighted in this booklet testify to the program's growth and success. Key accomplishments include 100 program graduates and more than 200 scholars progressing toward degrees. There has been a 90% retention and graduation rate for the program's scholars, with a 70% placement rate for graduates on campuses as faculty, administrators, or postdoctoral researchers. The booklet lists the first 100 graduates by state and presents profiles of a graduate from each state in the SREB area and the program's 100th graduate. (SLD)

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Southern Regional Education Board

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SREB-State
Doctoral Scholars Program

Milestone Graduates

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The First 100

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From the Office of the Director

2001 marks a milestone for the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program: the 100th graduate.

The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program was created in 1993 — as part of the Compact for Faculty Diversity with the New England and Western regional education organizations — to address the long-standing national shortage of minority faculty. One-fourth of U.S. college students are people of color, but only one of every 30 faculty members at predominantly white colleges and universities is a person of color.

The Doctoral Scholars Program takes pride in being "more than a check and a handshake." The program's goal is simple: increase the number of minority scholars who earn Ph.D.s and seek to become faculty members at colleges and universities. The SREB model provides many layers of support, encouragement and preparation to help scholars who have been admitted to doctoral programs in completing their graduate study and becoming successful faculty members.

The graduates highlighted in this report testify to the program's growth and success. Key accomplishments include:

- 100 program graduates and more than 200 scholars progressing toward their doctoral degrees;
- a 90 percent retention and graduation rate — more than double the national rate for minority Ph.D. scholars;
- a 70 percent placement rate of program graduates on campuses as faculty, administrators or postdoctoral researchers — more than one-third greater than the national placement rate for minorities; and
- the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math, Science and Engineering Mentoring.

The firm support of SREB states and the commitment of scholars have produced 100 outstanding Ph.D. graduates. With a keen eye toward the future, SREB's next goal is the 200th graduate — in half the time it took to reach the 100 mark.

Ansley A. Abraham
Director, SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program

The First 100 SREB Graduates

Alabama

Dr. Brenda Allen, Auburn University, Urban Forestry
Dr. Tamara Baynham-Watson, University of Alabama-Birmingham, Engineering/Biomedical
Dr. Denise Burton, University of Alabama, Molecular Biology/Genetics
Dr. Bernadette Chapple, Auburn University, Psychology/Educational
Dr. Michelle Foster, Auburn University, Applied Mathematics
Dr. Alvin Gibson, University of Alabama, Organizational Behavior
Dr. Daramia Hinton, Auburn University, Nutrition and Food Science
Dr. Cindy Jenkins, University of Alabama, Biology/Aquatic
Dr. Victor Mbarika, Auburn University, Management Information Systems
Dr. Lisa Pickett, University of Alabama, Public Administration
Dr. Carl-Ernst Rousseau, Auburn University, Engineering/Mechanical

Arkansas

Dr. Ira Bates, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, Accounting
Dr. Precilla Belin, University of Tennessee Knoxville, Human Ecology/Community Health
Dr. Earnest Cox, Texas Christian University, Composition and Rhetoric
Dr. Meagan Jordan, University of Kentucky, Public Administration
Dr. Jabbar Joshua, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Physiology
Dr. Loretta McGregor, Wichita State University, Psychology/Human Factors
Dr. Sylnovie Merchant, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, Computer Information Systems
Dr. Stephania Miller, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Physiology/Biophysics
Dr. Cynthia Taylor, Oklahoma State University, Business Administration/Accounting

Florida

Dr. Vanessa Brantley, Florida State University, Textiles and Consumer Sciences
Dr. Jennifer Park, Florida State University, Family and Child Sciences

Georgia

Dr. Deidre Gibson, University of Georgia, Oceanography/Biological
Dr. Frederick Meadows, Georgia State University, Chemistry/Analytical
Dr. Judith Noble, Georgia State University, Biology/Microbiology
Dr. Alesia Parker, Georgia State University, Chemistry/Organic
Dr. Garfield Warren, University of Georgia, Physics/Condensed Matter
Dr. Jackie Williams, Georgia State University, Nursing/Community Health

Kentucky

Dr. Cameron Alsup, University of Kentucky, Statistics
Dr. Virginia Carney, University of Kentucky, English
Dr. Paul Delaluz, University of Kentucky, Chemistry/Organic
Dr. Kenneth Henry II, University of Kentucky, Biochemistry
Dr. Luna Hilaire, University of Kentucky, Engineering/Biomedical
Dr. Wanda Jackson, University of Kentucky, History/American
Dr. Alice Johnson, University of Kentucky, Decision Science and Information Systems
Dr. Rana Johnson, University of Kentucky, Communication/Intercultural
Dr. David Kimweli, University of Kentucky, Psychology/Counseling
Dr. Harun Shabazz, University of Louisville, Urban and Public Affairs

Louisiana

Dr. Michael Crutcher Jr., Louisiana State University, Geography/Urban
Dr. Dennis Dillon, Louisiana State University, Vocational Education
Dr. Stephanie Hall, Louisiana State University, English
Dr. Sheila Rushing Haynes, Louisiana State University, Chemistry/Bio-organic
Dr. Byron D'Andra Orey, University of New Orleans, Urban and Minority Politics
Dr. Bridget Udoh, Louisiana State University, Vocational Training and Development

Maryland

Dr. Eric Ailor, Johns Hopkins University, Engineering/Chemical
Dr. Samuel Brown, University of Maryland Baltimore County, Public Policy/Evaluation Research
Dr. Tasha Inniss, University of Maryland College Park, Applied Mathematics/Statistics and Optimization
Dr. Sherry Scott Joseph, University of Maryland College Park, Mathematics/Harmonic Analysis

Mississippi

Dr. Patricia Logan, Mississippi State University, Educational Psychology/School Psychology
Dr. Jennifer Riley, Mississippi State University, Industrial Engineering/Ergonomics and Human Factors
Dr. Samuel Shingles, University of Mississippi, Vocal Pedagogy
Dr. Valerie Simpson, University of Southern Mississippi, Secondary Education/English
Dr. Jeanetta Tankson, Mississippi State University, Animal Physiology/Poultry
Dr. Voletta Williams, Jackson State University, Environmental Science

Oklahoma

Dr. Myra Alexander-Starr, Ohio State University, Higher Education Administration
Dr. Cynthia Brown, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Audiology
Dr. Nikki Bruner, Oklahoma State University, Engineering/Electrical
Dr. Luz-Eugenia Cox-Fuenzalida, University of Oklahoma, Psychology/Experimental
Dr. Jill Hough, Oklahoma State University, Management/Strategy
Dr. Josephine Li-McLeod, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Pharmacy Administration
Dr. Linda Mansker, University of New Mexico, Engineering/Chemical
Dr. David Monk, Oklahoma State University, Sociology
Dr. Teresa Newson, Oklahoma State University, Higher Education Administration
Dr. Bhuvaneswari Ravindran, University of Oklahoma, Instructional Psychology and Technology
Dr. Thomas Singleton Jr., University of Oklahoma, Philosophy
Dr. Terra Smith, Oklahoma State University, Nutritional Sciences
Dr. Anthony Stancampiano, University of Oklahoma, Zoology

South Carolina

Dr. Deborah Fulton, Clemson University, Ceramic Engineering
Dr. Ronald Garrick, University of South Carolina, Educational Leadership
Dr. Lynette Gibson, University of South Carolina, Nursing Science
Dr. Dionne Hoskins, University of South Carolina, Marine Science
Dr. Irene Houston, University of South Carolina, Psychology Education
Dr. Linda Lawson, Clemson University, Mathematical Sciences
Dr. Patricia Shelton, University of South Carolina, Nursing

Tennessee

Dr. Tomar Ghansah, Meharry Medical College, Molecular Biology/Signal Transduction
Dr. Clarence Lewis, Meharry Medical College, Medical Biochemistry
Dr. Dereece Smither, University of Memphis, Psychology/Experimental
Dr. Thomas Snowden, Meharry Medical College, Microbiology
Dr. Merlin Taylor Jr., University of Memphis, Speech Language Pathology
Dr. Darnell Carlton Worley II, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Engineering/Polymer

Texas

Dr. Aida Adams, Texas Tech University, Psychology/Educational
Dr. Jesus Tanguma, Texas A&M University, Psychology/Educational
Dr. Selina Vasquez, University of Texas-Austin, Mathematics Education

Virginia

Dr. Crystal Anderson, The College of William and Mary, American Studies
Dr. Daphne Bennett, Virginia Commonwealth University, Psychology/Clinical
Dr. Juan Betts, Virginia Tech, Engineering/Mechanical
Dr. Tamara Carter, University of Virginia, Psychology/Clinical
Dr. Chris Cornelius, Virginia Tech, Engineering/Chemical
Dr. Tatia Daniels-Granger, University of Virginia, Higher Education
Dr. Monica Skaggs McConnell, University of Virginia, Psychology/Clinical
Dr. Tonya Miller, Old Dominion University, Psychology/Industrial and Organizational
Dr. Heather Pert, Virginia Tech, Fisheries
Dr. Tamara Walker-Hobson, Virginia Commonwealth University, Psychology
Dr. Janice Winters, George Mason University, Special Education/Literacy

West Virginia

Dr. Justin Boyce, West Virginia University, Psychology/Counseling
Dr. Arsenio Caceres, West Virginia University, Engineering/Mechanical
Dr. Suling Cheng, West Virginia University, Psychology/Developmental
Dr. Melanie Coleman Cosby, West Virginia University, Psychology/Counseling
Dr. Angela Lau, West Virginia University, Psychology/Clinical

Other

Dr. Kimberly Moffitt, Howard University, Washington, D.C., Communications

The Institute on Teaching and Mentoring

The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program graduates continue to benefit from the annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. Graduates have a standing invitation to return each year to share experiences, lead discussions and provide inspiration. They remain a valued part of the scholars' networking community.

The institute gives scholars and their faculty mentors opportunities to share knowledge about academia, to learn skills necessary to succeed in graduate study, to prepare for success as faculty members at colleges and universities, to meet other scholars and faculty from throughout the country, and to link to a larger community of scholars of color in various academic fields. Participating in carefully planned seminars and discussions led by experts in their fields strengthens scholars' skills, knowledge and satisfaction.

The institute unites the doctoral scholars programs of three regional education organizations — the Southern Regional Education Board, the New England Board of Higher Education and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education — as the Compact for Faculty Diversity. Other national programs that participate in institute activities also add value and opportunity. The institute serves scholars and faculty sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the Ronald E. McNair Program.

Asking ...

answering ...

... and learning at the institute.

"There's nothing more worthy of investing one's resources in than people. SREB and Alabama have demonstrated their commitment to investing in people through support of the Doctoral Scholars Program. I will be eternally grateful for the investment it made in me."

Brenda Allen

Ph.D. institution: Auburn University

Major field/specialty: Urban Forestry

Faculty mentor: Dr. Arthur H. Chappelka

Most recent presentation: "People's Opinions About Trees in the Wildland/Urban Interface." The Urban Forestry Institute (June 2000).

Current employer and title/position: Auburn University School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist — Urban Forestry

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am the first and only African-American to receive a Ph.D. in forestry from Auburn University, the first and only black faculty member in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, as well as one of only two female faculty members. I am also the first graduate of the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program.

Cynthia Taylor

Ph.D. institution: Oklahoma State University

Major field/specialty: Business Administration/ Accounting

Faculty mentor: Dr. Gary Meek

Most recent presentation: "Reducing Exposure to Liability Under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act." Eighth Annual Meeting of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences (February 2001).

Current employer and title/position: University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Assistant Professor of Accounting

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient? I am the first minority faculty member in the Department of Accounting, as well as the College of Business at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

"I will always appreciate the networking and relationships with other scholars and the SREB Doctoral Scholars staff that I have been afforded."

"The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program creates a support structure at each scholar's university. And the staff at SREB is invested and actively involved in each scholar's training."

Jennifer Park

Ph.D. institution: Florida State University

Major field/specialty: Child Development/Child Care and Public Policy

Faculty mentor: Dr. Ann K. Mullis

Most recent presentation: "Welfare Reform and Childcare: Issues in the Rural South," with A.K. Mullis and A.S Ghazvini. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, Minn. (April 2001).

Current employer and title/position: American Institutes for Research, Research Analyst

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient? I am the 50th graduate of the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program.

Ph.D. institution: University of Georgia

Major field/specialty: Physics

Faculty mentors: Dr. W.M. Dennis and Dr. W.M. Yen

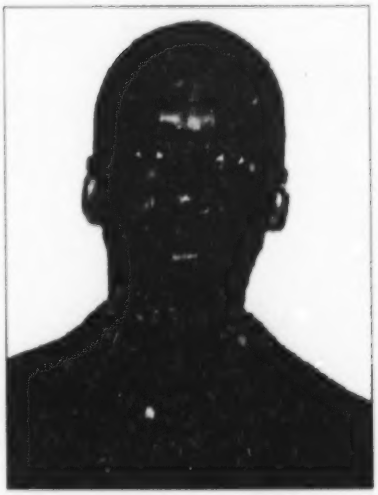
Most recent presentation: "In-Situ Spectroscopy of Holographically Formed Polymer Dispersed Liquid Crystal Materials For High-Performance Reflective Display Applications." Society of Information Display; San Jose, Calif. (June 2001).

Current employer and title/position: Brown University Division of Engineering, Postdoctoral Research Associate

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient? I was the first person of color to receive a Ph.D. in physics from the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Georgia.

Garfield Warren

"The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program is one of the most successful enterprises responsible for the support of people of color receiving advanced degrees in academics."



"The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program provides empowerment, recognizing that students of color require a different type of support. And the program provides it."

Rana Johnson

Ph.D. institution: University of Kentucky

Major field/specialty: Communication/Intercultural

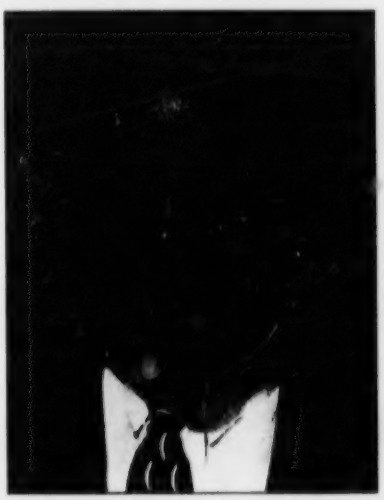
Faculty mentors: Dr. Karen Webb and Dr. Deneese Jones

Most recent presentation: "The Effects of Co-cultural Adaptation on African-American Doctoral Student Persistence at the University of Kentucky" (February 2001).

Current employer and title/position: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, Associate for Equal Educational Opportunities

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am the first student of color to select a topic that focuses specifically on race relations in doctoral education at the University of Kentucky. I chose this particular topic to provide the graduate school with a document that acknowledges and identifies African-American doctoral students' perceptions of the institutional climate, especially their concern that they are not fully integrated in the educational community.

"The Doctoral Scholars Program is unique in that upon completion of their studies, scholars don't exit the program but become alumni who are actively encouraged to continue participating through the Doctoral Scholars Association and the annual teaching and mentoring institute."



Ph.D. institution: Louisiana State University

Major field/specialty: Geography/Urban

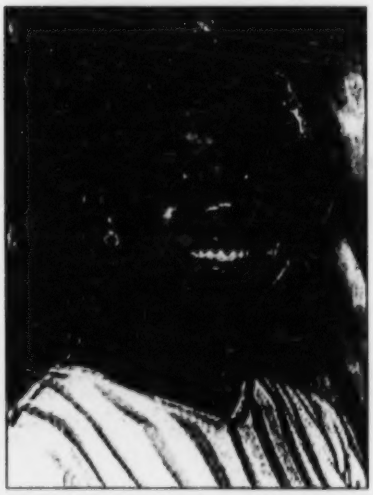
Faculty mentor: Dr. Joyce Jackson

Most recent presentation: "Protecting 'Place' in African-American Neighborhoods: Urban Public Space, Privatization and Protest in Louis Armstrong Park and the Tremè, New Orleans" (December 2000).

Current employer and title/position: Xavier University (New Orleans), Department of History, Adjunct Assistant Professor

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am the first African-American to receive a Ph.D. from the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University.

Michael Crutcher



"The most important aspect about the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program is its willingness to work with students to deal with whatever problems arise. The sincerity and kindness that I have experienced in my contacts with SREB have been exceptional."

Sherry Joseph

Ph.D. institution: University of Maryland, College Park

Major field/specialty: Mathematics/harmonic analysis and wavelet theory with specialization in statistical and signal processing applications

Faculty mentor: Dr. Raymond L. Johnson

Most recent presentation: "Spectral Analysis of Fractal Noise in Terms of Wiener's Generalized Harmonic Analysis and Wavelet Theory"; NAM Granville-Browne Recent Ph.D.s Presentations at the Joint Math Meetings in New Orleans La. (January 2001).

Current employer and title/position: The George Washington University, Visiting Assistant Professor

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am one of the first three African-American women to graduate with a Ph.D. in math from the University of Maryland, College Park.

"The Doctoral Scholars Program acts as a catalyst in that all of the scholars come together once a year and get rejuvenated by the accomplishments of other students who have succeeded in earning their Ph.D.s"

Ph.D. institution: Mississippi State University

Major field/specialty: Animal Physiology/Poultry

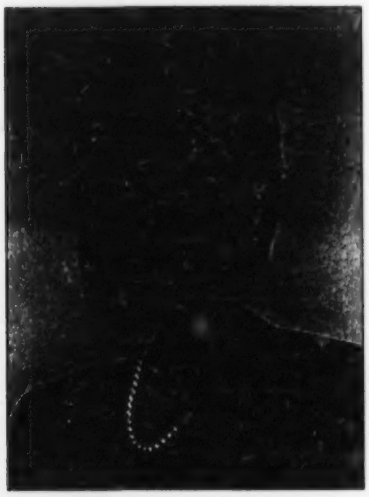
Faculty mentors: Dr. J. Paul Thaxton and Dr. Yvonne Vizzier-Thaxton

Most recent presentation: "Pulmonary Hypertension Syndrome in Broilers Challenged with Living and Dead *Enterococcus faecalis*" (2001).

Current employer and title/position: Mississippi State University, Research Associate

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am the first African-American female to receive a Ph.D. in animal physiology from Mississippi State University, Poultry Science Department. I am also a recipient of the 2001 Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station Graduate Student Research Award of the Year.

Jeanetta Tankson



"The Doctoral Scholars Program is a wonderful combination of emotional, professional and financial support provided to the students. I am forever indebted to the people at SREB."

Luz-Eugenia Cox-Fuenzalida

Ph.D. institution: University of Oklahoma

Major field/specialty: Psychology/Experimental — Individual Differences

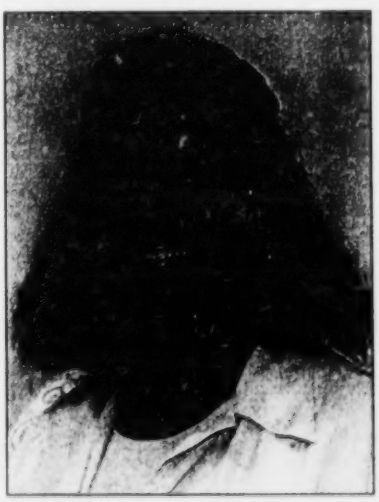
Faculty mentor: Dr. Kirby Gilliland

Most recent presentation: "Current Investigations of Workload History and Performance," with Kirby Gilliland. Biodynamics and Protection Division, Brooks Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas (January 2001).

Current employer and title/position: University of Oklahoma, Department of Psychology, Assistant Professor (beginning July 2001).

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am currently the only female minority assistant professor in my department.

"The Doctoral Scholars Program helped me to remain grounded and be true to myself. I continue to utilize the survival skills and knowledge learned through the Compact for Faculty Diversity to enhance my teaching, mentoring and research activities at Clemson University."



Ph.D. institution: University of South Carolina

Major field/specialty: Nursing Science

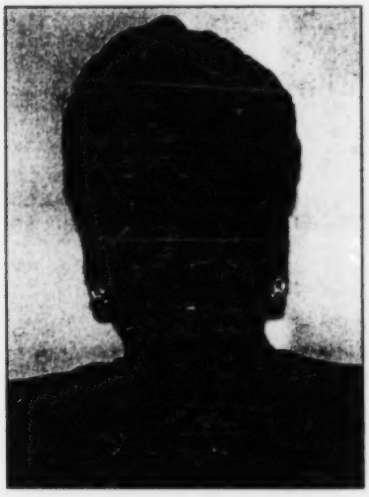
Faculty mentor: Dr. Constance S. Hendricks

Most recent publication: "Preparing Culturally Competent Nurses," with A. Hunter. South Carolina Nurse, 8(2) (2001).

Current employer and title/position: Clemson University School of Nursing, College of Health, Education and Human Development, Assistant Professor

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am the first SREB doctoral scholar to graduate with the Ph.D. in nursing science from the University of South Carolina College of Nursing.

Lynette Gibson



"The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program made me feel like I was part of a family rather than an isolated graduate student pursuing my Ph.D."

Tomar Ghansah

Ph.D. institution: Meharry Medical College

Major field/specialty: Microbiology/Signal Transduction

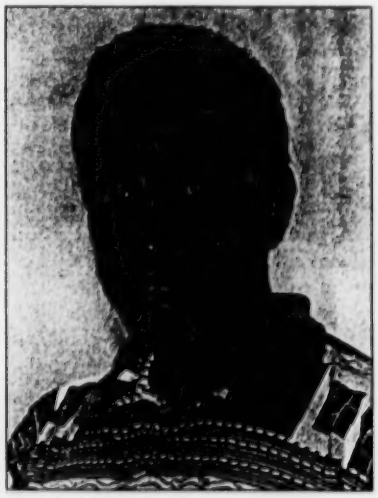
Faculty mentor: Dr. Maria de Fatima Lima

Most recent publication: *A Role for the SH2-Containing Inositol Phosphatase in Biology Natural Killer Cells and Stem Cells.* In Activating and Inhibitory Immunoglobulin Receptors, eds. M.D. Cooper, T. T. Takai, J.V. Ravetch (March 2001).

Current employer and title/position: Moffitt Cancer Research Center, University of South Florida, Postdoctoral Fellow

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am one of a few African-American women who hold a Ph.D. degree in the biological sciences. In fact, I am the only African-American postdoctoral fellow here at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Research Center at the University of South Florida.

"The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program has been a great experience for me. I particularly benefited from the financial support and the opportunity to meet other scholars."



Ph.D. institution: Texas A&M University

Major field/specialty: Educational Psychology

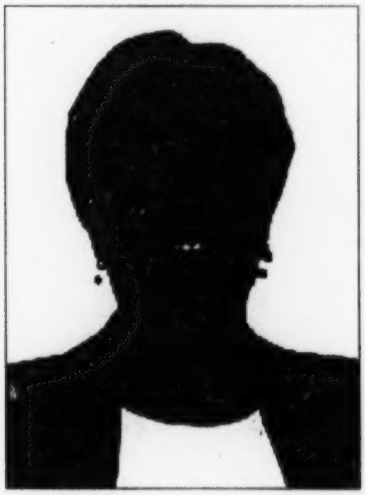
Faculty mentor: Dr. Victor Willson

Most recent publication: *Effects of Sample Size on the Distribution of Selected Fit Indices: A Graphical Approach.* Educational and Psychological Measurement. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications (fall 2001).

Current employer and title/position: University of Houston-Clear Lake, Assistant Professor

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient? I am the first person in my family to receive a Ph.D.

Jesus Tanguma



"The emotional support provided by the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program staff was the vehicle that helped me to persevere. SREB has been a godsend to me."

Daphne Bennett

Ph.D. institution: Virginia Commonwealth University

Major field/specialty: Psychology/Clinical

Faculty mentors: Dr. Nirbhay Singh and Dr. Steve Danish

Most recent presentation: "The Impact of Psychological Testing on Students With Learning Disabilities." Virginia State University Students With Disabilities Program (October 2000).

Current employer and title/position: Central State Hospital, Petersburg, Va., Postdoctoral Forensic Psychologist

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I was a nontraditional student in that I left a career to return to school full time, was significantly older than my peers, and was a single mother of two.

"The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program granted me the opportunity to be inspired for greatness. I am the first African-American faculty member in my department at West Virginia University."

Ph.D. institution: West Virginia University

Major field/specialty: Counseling Psychology with a minor in Psychological Foundations

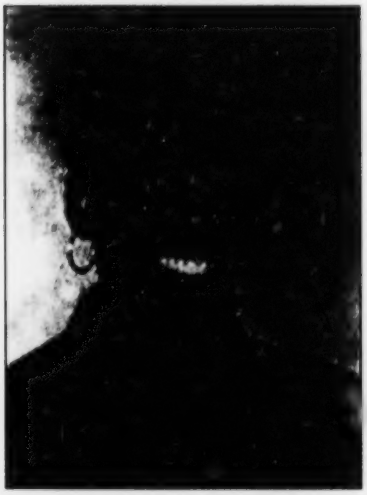
Faculty mentor: Dr. Cynthia Kalodner

Most recent presentation: "Client Preference for Counselors: Their Relationship to Within Group Differences." American Psychological Association 109th annual conference, San Francisco, Calif. (August 2001).

Current employer and title/position: West Virginia University, Visiting Assistant Professor

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient?
I am the first African-American faculty member in my department. I am also the first individual in my family to receive a doctorate or an advanced degree beyond a bachelor's degree.

Justin Boyce



"The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program, for many talented and motivated persons interested in faculty positions, eliminates the major obstacle of a lack of financial means to reach goals that might otherwise be unattainable."

Jennifer Riley

Full name: Jennifer Magee Riley, Ph.D.

Ph.D. institution: Mississippi State University

Major field/specialty: Industrial Engineering/ Ergonomics and Human Factors

Faculty mentor: Dr. David B. Kaber (North Carolina State University)

Most recent presentation: "The Utility of Measures of Attention and Situation Awareness for Quantifying Telepresence." Texas Tech University (Spring 2001).

Current employer and title/position: Considering offers from two research universities.

What is unique about you as a Ph.D. recipient? I am the 100th graduate of the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program.